

Claims

1. A digital audio system comprising means for reproducing digital audio signals from a signal source controlled by a control device, characterized in that the control device is provided with a manually operable input arrangement which is movable in two directions such that movement in a first direction causes the reproduction of a portion of the signals to be omitted and movement in a second direction causes the reproduction of a portion of the signals to be repeated.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1 in which the manually operable input means is movable in forward and reverse directions to control the reproduction of the audio signals.

3. A system as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the movement of the manually operable input arrangement causes the omission of a periodic portion of the signal, with the size of the portion depending on the rate of movement.

4. A system as claimed in claim 3 in which if the rate of movement in the first direction exceeds a predetermined threshold, a complete section of audio signal is omitted.

5. A system as claimed in any preceding claim in which the amount of movement of the manually operable input

arrangement determines the size of the portion of the audio signal to be repeated or omitted.

6. A system as claimed in any preceding claim in which consecutive reproduction of the audio signals recommences when any movement of the manually operable input arrangement has ceased, from a point determined by the amount of movement of the manually operable input arrangement.

7. A digital audio system as claimed in any preceding claim in which the signal source is a removable digital memory device.

8. A digital audio system as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 in which the signal source is a broadcast signal, further comprising a buffer memory for storing a portion of the most recently broadcast signals.